

was, to interpose greater difficulties, in the way of the recapture of fugitive Slaves, than had previously existed, will, nevertheless, as long as it remains unreversed, be considered authority in the State of New York, and it is of the greatest importance to the people of Maryland, that measures should be taken to test its constitutionality. It is, therefore, respectfully suggested that a Resolution be passed directing the Attorney General, at the cost of this State, to carry the case, by writ of error or otherwise, to the Supreme Court of the United States, in order that the subject may be examined by that tribunal, and the decision reversed.

The other papers consist of a communication from a citizen of Virginia, of high character, accompanied with affidavits, setting forth that a certain Jonathan Little of Washington county, in this State, is now in confinement in the Jail of Huntingdon county, in the State of Pennsylvania, awaiting his trial upon an indictment for Kidnapping a negro. The facts, as stated, are that Jonathan Little, together with two other persons, arrested, in that county, a fugitive slave named Jacob Tenley, the property of Elizabeth McClean, of Frederick county, and while in the act of conveying him to his owner, the Slave was rescued from their hands, and set at liberty. That sometime afterwards, Jonathan Little, having returned to Huntingdon county, was arrested and imprisoned in the Jail of that county, in a narrow cell, heavily ironed, and treated in all respects as a felon. It is further stated that the trial of Little was continued from the last term of the Court of that county, notwithstanding, his witnesses were all in attendance, until the January term, which will take place in a few weeks from this time; that Little is a poor man, and unable to employ and pay counsel to defend him. It is, therefore, suggested in these papers, that it is the duty of the State of Maryland, to provide him with counsel, in order that he may be properly defended.

These cases present two instances, out of very many others, to show the obstacles that are constantly interposed to prevent the re-capture of absconding Slaves, not only by the populace, but by the judicial tribunals.

The whole subject is respectfully submitted for your consideration and action.

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